State/Ut		Birth Rate		
		1994	1995	1996 Prov.
5	J&K	NA	NA	NA
6	Manipur	21.7	20.6	19.4
7	Meghalaya	29.5	29.0	30.4
8	Mizoram	NA	NA	NA
9	Nagaland	20.1	NA	NA
10	Sikkim	24.6	22.5	20.0
11	Tripura	21.9	18.9	18.8
III	*Union Territories*			
1	A&N Islands	18.0	18.7	17.8
2	Chandigarh	19.0	19.5	16.9
3	D&N Haveli	34.4	29.7	28.9
4	Daman & Diu	24.8	21.8	21.0
5	Lakshadweep	26.8	25.5	28.8
6	Pondicherry	19.0	20.1	18.0

Source: Sample Registration System
NA: Not available.

Amount being spent on health care

239. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of GDP is being spent on health care in the country at present;

(b) whether Government are considering to increase it in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, and not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) As per the WHO Regional Health Report 1997, health expenditure as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is 6% (1990) of which 1.3% is from public sector and 4.7% from private sector.

(b) and (c) To augment the resources for the health sector a number of new initiatives have been taken up like availing of external assistance for various disease control programme, renovating and modernising important Central Institutions and organisations and strengthening of selected health systems in the State Govts. As a result of this Rs. 2718.64 crores of external aid would be availed of for disease control programmes for AIDS, Leprosy, T.B., Blindess and Malaria over the project periods. State Governments would receive loan assistance of Rs. 2277.40 crores for the State Health Systems projects.

Greater Autonomy for Jammu and Kashmir

240. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:
SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since received a renewed demand for greater autonomy of Jammu & Kashmir in the light of Autonomy Committee set-up by the present Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE